**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for controlling outer loop power, comprising the following steps of:

a) measuring a BER, and calculating an error between measured BER and a target BER and ~~a change of the error~~ a variance value of the error;

b) determining a ~~degree~~ grade of the error and a ~~degree~~ grade of the variance value of the error ~~change of the error~~;

c) calculating a ~~degree~~ grade of a SNR threshold adjusting step value in accordance with the ~~degree~~ grade of the error and the ~~degree~~ grade of the variance value of the error;

d) determining an actual SNR threshold adjusting step value based on the calculated ~~degree~~ grade of the SNR threshold adjusting step value; and

e) adjusting a SNR threshold in accordance with the actual SNR threshold adjusting step value.

2. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step a) is performed as follows:

the error is −10, when measured BER = 0;

the error is log10 (measured ~~EBR~~BER/target BER), when measured BER ≠0; and

the ~~change~~ variance value of the error is a current calculated error minus a previous calculated error.

3. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~degree~~ grade of the error and the ~~degree~~ grade of the ~~change~~ variance value of the error in said step b) are determined by a table below:

| ~~Degree~~ grade | -3 | 2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Error | <-0.7 | [-0.7, -0.3] | [-0.3, -0.05] | [-0.05, 0.05] | [0.05, 0.3] | [0.3, | >0.7 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | 0.7] | |
| ~~Change~~ variance value of error | <-0.7 | [-0.7, -0.3] | [-0.3, -0.1] | [-0.1, 0.1] | [0.1, 0.3] | [0.3, 0.7] | >0.7 |

4. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 2, wherein the ~~degree~~ grade of the error and the ~~degree~~ grade of the ~~change~~ variance value of the error in said step b) are determined by a table below:

| ~~Degree~~ grade | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| error | <-0.7 | [-0.7, -0.3] | [-0.3, -0.05] | [-0.05, 0.05] | [0.05, 0.3] | [0.3; 0.7] | >0.7 |
| ~~change~~ variance value of error | <-0.7 | [-0.7, -0.3] | [-0.3, -0.1] | [-0.1, 0.1] | [0.1, 0.3] | [0.3, 0.7] | >0.7 |

5. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step c) is performed in accordance with the following equations:

if | error ~~degree~~grade | <2, SNR threshold adjusting step value ~~degree~~grade = int( $\alpha_1$ * error ~~degree~~grade +(1- $\alpha_1$) * error ~~change~~ variance value ~~degree~~grade); and

if | error ~~degree~~grade | ≥2, SNR threshold adjusting step value ~~degree~~grade =int( $\alpha_2$ * error ~~degree~~grade +(1- $\alpha_2$) * error ~~change~~ variance value ~~degree~~grade),

wherein, int(x) denotes rounding, and both $\alpha_1$ and $\alpha_2$ are adjustable coefficients and meet the following requirement:

$0 \leqslant \alpha_1 \leqslant \alpha_2 \leqslant 1$.

6. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 3, wherein said step c) is performed in accordance with the following equations:

if | error ~~degree~~grade | <2, SNR threshold adjusting step ~~degree~~grade = int( $\alpha_1$ * error ~~degree~~grade +(1- $\alpha_1$ ) * error ~~change~~ variance value ~~degree~~grade); and

if | error ~~degree~~grade | ≥2, SNR threshold adjusting step ~~degree~~grade =int( $\alpha_2$ * error ~~degree~~grade +(1- $\alpha_2$ ) * error ~~change~~ variance value ~~degree~~grade),

wherein, int(x) denotes rounding, and both $\alpha_1$ and $\alpha_2$ are adjustable coefficients and meet the following requirement:

$0 \leqslant \alpha_1 \leqslant \alpha_2 \leqslant 1$.

7. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 4, wherein said step c) is performed in accordance with the following equations:

if | error ~~degree~~grade | <2, SNR threshold adjusting step ~~degree~~grade = int( $\alpha_1$ * error ~~degree~~grade +(1- $\alpha_1$ ) * error ~~change~~ variance value ~~degree~~grade); and

if | error ~~degree~~grade | ≥2, SNR threshold adjusting step ~~degree~~grade =int( $\alpha_2$ * error ~~degree~~grade +(1-$\alpha_2$) * error ~~change~~ variance value ~~degree~~grade),

wherein, int(x) denotes rounding, and both $\alpha_1$ and $\alpha_2$ are adjustable coefficients and meet the following requirement:

$0 \leqslant \alpha_1 \leqslant \alpha_2 \leqslant 1$.

8. (Original) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 5, wherein $\alpha_1$ is 0.5 and $\alpha_2$ is 0.7.

9 (Original) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 6, wherein $\alpha_1$ is 0.5 and $\alpha_2$ is 0.7.

10. (Original)The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 7, wherein $\alpha_1$ is 0.5 and $\alpha_2$ is 0.7.

11. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 1, wherein in step d), the actual SNR adjusting step value threshold is determined according to the ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value as shown in the following table:

| ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| actual SNR threshold adjusting step value | -0.6 | -0.3 | -0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 |

12. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 5, wherein in step d), the actual SNR adjusting step threshold is determined according to the ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value as shown in the following table:

| ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Actual SNR threshold adjusting step value | -0.6 | -0.3 | -0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 |

13. The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 6, wherein in step d), the actual SNR adjusting step value threshold is determined according to the ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value as shown in the following table:

| ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| actual SNR threshold adjusting step value | -0.6 | -0.3 | -0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 |

14. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 7, wherein in step d), the actual SNR adjusting step value threshold is determined according to the ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value as shown in the following table:

| ~~degree~~grade of SNR threshold adjusting step value | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| actual SNR threshold adjusting | -0.6 | -0.3 | -0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 |

| step value | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

15. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 1, wherein in step e), the SNR threshold is adjusted by the following steps of:

i) calculating a temporary SNR threshold in accordance with the following equation:

temporary SNR threshold = SNR threshold adjusting step value + previous SNR threshold; and

ii) determining a SNR threshold according to the temporary SNR threshold calculated in step i):

SNR threshold = predetermined upper limit when temporary SNR threshold > predetermined upper limit;

SNR threshold = predetermined lower limit when temporary SNR threshold < predetermined lower limit; and

else SNR threshold = temporary SNR threshold.

16. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 11, wherein in step e), the SNR threshold is adjusted by the following steps of:

i) calculating a temporary SNR threshold in accordance with the following equation:

temporary SNR threshold = SNR threshold adjusting step value + previous SNR threshold; and

ii) determining a SNR threshold according to the temporary SNR threshold calculated in step i):

SNR threshold = predetermined upper limit when temporary SNR threshold > predetermined upper limit;

SNR threshold = predetermined lower limit when temporary SNR threshold < predetermined lower limit; and

else SNR threshold = temporary SNR threshold.

17. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 12, wherein in step e), the SNR threshold is adjusted by the following steps of:

i) calculating a temporary SNR threshold in accordance with the following equation:

temporary SNR threshold = SNR threshold adjusting step value + previous SNR threshold; and

ii) determining a SNR threshold according to the temporary SNR threshold calculated in step i):

SNR threshold = predetermined upper limit when temporary SNR threshold > predetermined upper limit;

SNR threshold = predetermined lower limit when temporary SNR threshold < predetermined lower limit; and

else SNR threshold = temporary SNR threshold.

18. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 13, wherein in step e), the SNR threshold is adjusted by the following steps of:

i) calculating a temporary SNR threshold in accordance with the following equation:

temporary SNR threshold = SNR threshold adjusting step value + previous SNR threshold; and

ii) determining a SNR threshold according to the temporary SNR threshold calculated in step i):

SNR threshold = predetermined upper limit when temporary SNR threshold > predetermined upper limit;

SNR threshold = predetermined lower limit when temporary SNR threshold < predetermined lower limit; and

else SNR threshold = temporary SNR threshold.

19. (Currently amended) The method for controlling outer loop power as claimed in claim 14, wherein in step e), the SNR threshold is adjusted by the following steps of:

i) calculating a temporary SNR threshold in accordance with the following equation:

temporary SNR threshold = SNR threshold adjusting step value + previous SNR threshold; and

ii) determining a SNR threshold according to the temporary SNR threshold calculated in step i):

SNR threshold = predetermined upper limit when temporary SNR threshold > predetermined upper limit;

SNR threshold = predetermined lower limit when temporary SNR threshold < predetermined lower limit; and

else SNR threshold = temporary SNR threshold.